

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**STANDING HEARING OFFICER DIRECTIVE**

**DOCKET NO. 2023-388-E ORDER NO. 2024-9-H**

**JANUARY 23, 2024**

**STANDING HEARING OFFICER:** David Stark

**DOCKET DESCRIPTION:**

DOCKET NO. 2023-388-E-Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Increase in Electric Rates, Adjustments in Electric Rate Schedules and Tariffs, and Request for an Accounting Order

**MATTER UNDER CONSIDERATION:**

Petition to Intervene of South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs filed on January 5, 2024.

**HEARING OFFICER'S ACTION:**

This matter comes before the Hearing Officer on the timely filed Petition to Intervene of South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs (SCDCA) in Docket No. 2023-388-E. There was no objection filed in this docket opposing Petitioner's Petition to Intervene as provided by S.C. Regs. 103-825A(3).

S.C. Regs. 103-825A(3) requires that parties filing a Petition to Intervene in a matter pending before the South Carolina Public Service Commission must set forth clearly and concisely:

- (a) the facts from which the nature of the petitioner's alleged right or interest can be determined;
- (b) the grounds of the proposed intervention; and
- (c) the position of the petitioner in the proceeding.

In support of their Petition, the Petitioner asserts the following:

SCDCA is a consumer advocate that works to "avoid excessive, inadequate, and unwarranted rate increases." SCDCA's Petition to Intervene, p. 2, ¶ 3. Further, SCDA is statutorily authorized to intervene where "agencies undertake to fix rates or prices for consumer products or services." SCDCA's Petition to Intervene, p. 2, ¶ 2. SCDCA further claims to not have a fully developed position and the right to further develop such position as the proceedings progresses. SCDCA's Petition to Intervene, p. 2, ¶ 3.

From the discussion and assertions in the Petition, this Hearing Officer holds that the Petitioner satisfied the criteria for intervention pursuant to S.C. Regs. 103-825A(3). The Petitioner's interest and grounds for intervention in these matters can clearly be discerned. This Hearing Officer finds their position to be clear and concise, though not yet fully developed, as SCDCA is a consistent intervenor in matters before the Commission. Further, the Petition to Intervene was timely filed

and there are no objections to the intervention. Accordingly, the Petition to Intervene of SCDCA is hereby granted in this Docket.

This ends the Hearing Officer's Directive.